

DETROIT INTERMODAL FREIGHT TERMINAL PROJECT
Local Advisory Council Meeting
January 14, 2004, 7:00 p.m.
Meeting Notes

Purpose: To discuss the progress of the DIFT Project.

Attendance: See attached.

Discussion:

Mohammed Alghurabi thanked everyone for coming on a very snowy evening. He stressed that information in the agenda packet would be provided by mail to the LAC members. Furthermore, the topics of discussion for the January meeting would be incorporated into the February meeting.

Meeting Conduct Procedures

Mohammed Alghurabi then asked those in attendance to introduce themselves.

Commodity-flow Model

Joe Corradino indicated that he had had communications with two railroads that had provided input to the commodity-flow model. As a result, it is believed that the high range of the forecasts for both the Consolidate and Improve/Expand alternatives are appropriate for long-range (25 year) planning. On the other hand, input from the railroads indicates that the low end of the No Action alternative could be either 500,000 or 600,000 lifts per year. The commodity-flow model indicates that the low end of the No Action alternative range of 2025 lifts is about 600,000 per year. However, in order to provide an adequate test of the impact of the action alternatives, the forecast of 500,000 lifts will be used. It provides the greatest spread between action and no action, which puts the greatest “pressure” on the action alternatives in the evaluation of impacts. This is done by using the high end of the action alternative lift forecasts in combination with the lowest No Action forecast.

Social/Cultural Effects Evaluation

Joe Corradino referred to the handouts provided at the meeting including a series of maps that were also placed in large form along the walls. He then explained the methodology for reviewing all populations in the three terminal areas and how, based on the analysis, a “two

percent” threshold was established so that any group of people of that size or greater would be the focus of further analysis. He indicated that the populations that exceed the two percent limit include the following: Arabs, English, French (except Basque), German, Irish, Italians, Polish, Scottish.

VACIS

Joe Corradino referred to information in the agenda packet with respect to a system known as VACIS which X-rays railcars coming from Canada. He indicated that the system was expected to be located in Windsor but recent developments have proposed it be shifted to the West Detroit railroad area. As a result, the U.S. railroads are very concerned because 65 to 70 trains per day that move through the West Detroit area will be slowed as VACIS inspects trains from Canada that move at 5 to 7 miles per hour.

Detroit City Council Meeting on CSX

Joe Corradino indicated that, based upon information from Chris Gulock of the Detroit City Planning Commission, it is expected that the Detroit City Council will conduct a meeting in early February to review the CSX proposed access to its improved Livernois Junction terminal.

Interesting Articles

Joe Corradino pointed to a number of articles included in the agenda packet for review by the coordination team.

Public Comments

Maria Anita Salinas commented that the information presented earlier in the evening on the social/cultural evaluation was good and that she would look it over and provide comment, as appropriate. She also asked for a complete list of LAC members. Mohammed Alghurabi indicated he would send it to her.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for the Dearborn Holiday Inn for the evening of February 11th.

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Attendance

LAC Members

Name	Representing	Phone
Fr. Joe Redican	Holy Redeemer Schools	313-841-4433

LAC Observers

Name	Representing	Phone
Mohammed Alghurabi	MDOT	517-373-7674
Marty Connour	MARS	
Joe Corradino	The Corradino Group	313-964-1926
Jeff Edwards	MDOT	248-483-5114
Larry Foutz	The Corradino Group	313-964-1926
Paul Max	Detroit Health Department	
Sherry Piacenti	MDOT	517-373-4152
Chris Raymond	City of Dearborn Police Dept.	
Maria Anita Salinas	Community Action Against Asthma	
Harvey Santana	The Corradino Group	313-964-1926
Chuck Tucker	City of Ferndale	

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